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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 80045-1

Client Ref. No. 13773/1/St

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

FRANZ KNAUSEDER

Application No. (not yet assigned)

Filed: (herewith)

For: JOINING PANEL

Customer No. 20350

Confirmation No.

Examiner:

Technology Center/Art Unit:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

San Francisco, CA 94111

September 5, 2006

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.